


**Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ**  
**an Open and Affirming Congregation**  
**7th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 12, 2026**

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 **Reflection** – *"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant."* ~ Robert Louis Stevenson, Scottish novelist, essayist, poet and travel writer.

*"With every deed you are sowing a seed, though the harvest you may not see."* ~ Ella Wheeler Wilcox, American poet, author, and journalist

 **Organ Prelude**

 **Announcements / Lighting the Candle / Welcome to Worship**

 **Organ Introit**

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 **Call to Worship**

One: Come, beloved people of God.  
The Holy One extravagantly scatters grace  
like seed upon the earth.

**All: God gives abundantly without counting the cost  
or measuring our worth.**

One: Like rain that waters the fields,  
God's Word brings life where hope has grown thin.

**All: God's promises do not return empty.**

One: Come with hearts that are ready, uncertain, weary,  
or full of joy.

**All: God welcomes us all and nurtures new life within us.**

One: Let us worship the One whose love  
is always growing among us.

**All: We come to receive God's Word  
and to rejoice in God's abundant grace.**

 **Hymn SL #74** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

I sing the mighty pow'r of God that made the mountains rise,  
That spread the flowing seas abroad, And built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained The sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at His command And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord That filled the earth with food;  
He formed the creatures with His word and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed where'er I turn my eye:  
If I survey the ground I tread Or gaze upon the sky!

There is not a plant or flow'r below but makes Thy glories known;  
And clouds arise and tempests blow By order from thy throne,  
While all that borrows life from Thee Is ever in thy care,  
And ev'rywhere that man can be, Thou, God, art present there.

 **Unison Prayer of Invocation**

**God of abundant grace, you scatter blessings more  
generously than we can imagine. You call each of us by  
name and invite us to grow in your love. As we worship  
today, prepare the soil of our hearts. Remove whatever  
keeps us from hearing your voice. Plant your truth deeply  
within us, and let your Spirit nourish it with wisdom and  
love. Grant us ears to hear, hearts to receive, hands ready  
to serve, and lives that bear witness to your goodness. In  
Jesus' name, we pray. Amen**

 **Gloria SL #9**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end, Amen, Amen.

 **Anthem**

 **Moment for All Ages**

 **Scripture Reading**      Isaiah 55:10-13      p. 839  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23      p. 16

 **Message**

↑  **Hymn (SL #668)** *Christ Taught Us of a Farmer*

AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D ("The Church's One Foundation")  
*Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor*  
by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Upper Room Books, 2009)

Christ taught us of a farmer who went out sowing seeds.  
A few had trouble growing among the rocks and weeds,  
Yet others grew till harvest in soil that was so good.  
O God, you sow the gospel: The seed is your own word.

You sowed your word of love here so many years ago.  
Your message found a welcome; your word began to grow.  
By grace, this church was built here by saints who followed you.  
The seed took root and flourished: we hear and follow, too.

We thank you for each member who lives in loving ways:  
For those who seek to serve you without expecting praise,  
For hearts and songs uplifted, for work and sacrifice.  
The seed you planted grows here: we grow in Jesus Christ.

In times of joy we praise you, in struggling times we search,  
And always we are learning to be your faithful church.  
Your Spirit gives us vision — and hearts and lives made new.  
Your harvest is for sharing: sent out, we work for you.



**Prayers of the People – Help/Thanks/Wow**

One: Now we come to the time where we lift up  
our prayers of Help, Thanks, and Wow.  
Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them up to God.**

One: Does anyone have any prayers they would like to lift up?  
*After each individual prayer request...*

One: Loving and beloved God; **Many: Hear our prayer.**

**Prayer List**

One: Let us read the first names of those on our prayer list.

**Prayers of healing and hope for...**


**KATHY** Benoit, sister of Mike Raymond  
**JACKIE** Demarey, sister of Mike Raymond  
**KRISTY** Raymond, niece of Mike Raymond  
**LAURIE** Diemer, sister-in-law of Louise and Mike Raymond  
**AMY** Mason, friend of Louise Raymond  
**NORBERTO** Vega Rios, son of friend of Louise Raymond

SUE Willard, sister-in-law of Lynn Willard  
BETTY Jaffer, sister of Larry and Jackie Didier  
CHRIS, friend of Michele Feldheim  
RUSSELL Jeffords, father of Sean Jeffords

*\*Names remain on prayer list for 8 weeks unless extension requested*


**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer** using any version you wish

 **Response:** Hear our prayer O Lord, hear our prayer O Lord,  
Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.

**Offerings of the People – Time, Talents, Treasures, and Testimonies**

 **Offertory**

↑  **Response SL #40** *We Praise Thee, O God*

We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore Thee.  
We bless Thy holy name; glad praises we sing.



**Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**God of abundance, you sow your love with generous hands, trusting it will bear fruit beyond what we can see. We thank you for every blessing that sustains us, for the quiet work of your Spirit, and for the hope growing among us. Receive these gifts and receive us. May all we offer become seeds of compassion, justice, welcome, and peace, bearing fruit according to your purpose. Amen.**

↑  **Hymn SL #692** *Wonderful Words of Life*

Sing them over again to me, Wonderful words of life!  
Let me more of their beauty see, Wonderful words of life!  
Words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty.  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life!  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life!

Christ, the blessed one gives to all Wonderful words of life!  
Sinner, list to the loving call, Wonderful words of life!  
All so freely given, Wooing us to heaven.  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life!  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life!

Sweetly echoes the gospel call, Wonderful words of life!  
 Offer pardon and peace to all, Wonderful words of life!  
 Jesus, only Savior, Sanctify forever.  
 Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life!  
 Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life!

↑  **Benediction / Passing of the Peace**

↑  **Cong Response SL #785** *God Be With You*

God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you;  
 With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

↑  **Postlude**

↑ *Indicates you are invited to stand if you are comfortable doing so.*



**Welcome** to the Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ, an open and affirming church. **To join online via Zoom: Press Ctrl and CLICK HERE** or visit [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and click Join a Meeting, then enter Meeting ID 321 069 9076; Passcode 248423. To join by phone dial 646-558-8656, then meeting ID and Passcode.

**Pastor and Church Contact Info**

Rev. Carol Smith's cell phone and email:  
 860-798-7771; [carolbsmith12@gmail.com](mailto:carolbsmith12@gmail.com)  
 Office Hours – Tuesdays/Fridays 9 – 12; pastoral needs any time.  
 Julie Holt church secretary – church phone and email:  
 413-527-4204; [westhamptonchurchucc@comcast.net](mailto:westhamptonchurchucc@comcast.net)

**Worship Participants**

Ministers -	People of the church
Minister -	Rev. Carol Smith
Greeters -	↑ Ilene Lorow ↓ Shirley Raymond
Lay Reader -	Bud Geary
Pianist -	Michele Feldheim
Special Music -	Chuck Horn
Zoom Tech-	Bob Miller
Coffee Hour -	Jean Webster
Flowers -	Given in loving memory of Miriam Clapp, whose birthday was July 18, by Lorraine and Kevin O'Keefe

**This Week at the Church...**

Today 9am -	Big Y gift card orders
Wed/Fri/Sat -	Food Pantry - see website for hours
Fri 7pm -	AA
Next Sunday -	Big Y gift card pickup
Next Sunday -	Westhampton Community Gathering for Peace

**Birthdays and Anniversaries...**

July 12 *-	Julie Couture
July 14 *-	Amelia Bauer, Samantha Schmitt
July 15 *-	Tom Morton, Lorraine O'Keefe
July 17 *-	David Brown